

ABSTRACT

A method for establishing a data link service connection for a bi-directional service to be provided between first and second nodes through a network. Responsive to a request to initiate the service connection, a local index is generated at the first node indicative of the service to be provided, and a first signaling message is sent to the second node containing the index from the first node and service parameters of both of the nodes. Upon receiving the message at the second node, the service connection is initiated responsive to the index and the service parameters. A second signaling message is sent to the first node, and the service indicated by the index is activated.